



## Amesbury officials grateful for new 24-foot desk built by Whittier Tech students

HAVERTHILL – Amesbury town officials were thrilled to sit behind their new, 24-foot desk for the first time. It was built and installed by Whittier Tech carpentry students on Wednesday.



“It got rave reviews,” said Kendra Amaral, Chief of Staff in Amesbury. “It was debuted last night at one of our most highly attended budget meetings.”

Before the spacious, new desk arrived, the 9-member Municipal Council sat behind a “home-made table of spare plywood and a bunch of two by fours slapped together,” Ms. Amaral said. “It’s so nice to have something consistent with the respect the council deserves, to have something they can sit at that mirrors

the responsibility and importance of the work they do.”

In addition to the large desk, a separate 8-foot desk was also built by Whittier students for the town clerk. “We are always happy to be able to give back to our communities, especially during these difficult economic times,” said Whittier School Superintendent William DeRosa. “We are grateful for the support they give us, and it’s fitting that our students can assist them using some of the many skills they learn at Whittier.”

The long, curved desk was built in three, eight-foot sections and is covered in a dark-stained bead board with a laminate top. It was built to be easily moved during election season because the auditorium is also the town’s only polling place.

“We were excited to work with our neighbors at Whittier Tech to get this done,” Ms. Amaral said. “They did a fantastic job. It’s beautiful.”

Whittier students have built many different kinds of structures for the cities and towns in their district. Carpentry and masonry students attended a Grand Opening Thursday of a greenhouse they built for Triton Middle School students. They will also construct a 50 x 50 foot highway garage for the town of Rowley next school year, said Bev DeSalvo, Whittier’s Coordinator of Vocational Technical Education. In addition, they are building a new wall in the school’s front courtyard and will construct new dugouts for the baseball team in the fall.